

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

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Application No.: New US Patent Application

Filed: January 10, 2002

Docket No.: 111632

For: METHOD FOR PROCESSING CELLS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace claim 3, 7, 8, 11 and 14 as follows:

3. (Amended) The method set forth in claim 1, wherein the cell is irradiated with the laser through reflection and condensing.

7. (Amended) The method set forth in claim 1, wherein the laser is at least one laser selected from the group consisting of an YAG laser, an excimer laser, an Ar ion laser, a nitrogen laser and a nitrogen-excited laser.

8. (Amended) The method set forth in claim 1, which further comprises a step of introducing a foreign matter into the cell and/or the living cell through a laser-irradiated portion thereof after irradiation with the laser beam.

11. (Amended) The method set forth in claim 1, wherein the optical fiber is hollow.

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14. (Amended) The method set forth in claim 11, wherein a wall surface of a hollow space of the optical fiber is coated with a metal.

REMARKS

Claims 1-15 are pending. By this Preliminary Amendment, claims 3, 7, 8, 11 and 14 are amended to eliminate multiple dependencies. Prompt and favorable consideration on the merits is respectfully requested.

The attached Appendix includes marked-up copies of each rewritten claim (37 C.F.R. §1.121(c)(1)(ii)).

Respectfully submitted,



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Attached: APPENDIX

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## APPENDIX

## Changes to Claims:

The following are marked-up versions of the amended claims:

3. (Amended) The method set forth in claim 1-~~or~~2, wherein the cell is irradiated with the laser through reflection and condensing.

7. (Amended) The method set forth in ~~claim 1~~any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein the laser is at least one laser selected from the group consisting of an YAG laser, an excimer laser, an Ar ion laser, a nitrogen laser and a nitrogen-excited laser.

8. (Amended) The method set forth in ~~claim 1~~any one of claims 1 to 7, which further comprises a step of introducing a foreign matter into the cell and/or the living cell through a laser-irradiated portion thereof after irradiation with the laser beam.

11. (Amended) The method set forth in ~~claim 1~~any one of claims 1 to 10, wherein the optical fiber is hollow.

14. (Amended) The method set forth in ~~claim 11~~any one of claims 11 to 13, wherein a wall surface of a hollow space of the optical fiber is coated with a metal.

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